

### Remarks/Arguments

In the Office Action mailed July 3, 2003, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4 and 7-17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 5 and 6 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The examiner indicated that claims 1-17 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

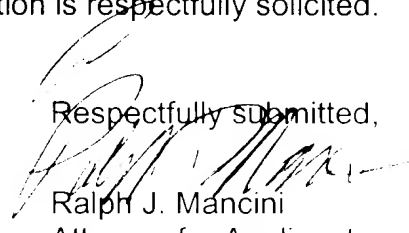
In response to the rejections applicants have amended the claims which when considered with the following remarks is believed to place the present case in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of all the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Initially, applicants have amended "synthetic polyisobutylene" in the last line of claim 1 to read --synthetic polyisobutylene sulfonate--. This amendment is made without prejudice and not for reasons of patentability.

Further, claims 18-23 have been cancelled, without prejudice, as being directed to non-elected subject matter. A divisional application directed to such claims will be filed in due course.

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, all of the pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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